

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A 8th - 9th August 2020

First Reading: 1 Kgs 19:9-11-13

Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord God.

When Elijah reached Horeb, the mountain of God, he went into the cave and spent the night in it. Then he was told, 'Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord.' Then the Lord himself went by. There came a mighty wind, so strong it tore the mountains and shattered the rocks before the Lord. But the Lord was not in the wind. After the wind came an earthquake. But the Lord was not in the earthquake. After the earthquake came a fire. But the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire there came the sound of a gentle breeze. And when Elijah heard this, he covered his face with his cloak and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave.

The Word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 84:9-14. R. v.8

R/ Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation.

Second Reading: Romans 9:1-5

I would willingly be condemned if it could help my people.

What I want to say is no pretence; I say it in union with Christ – it is the truth – my conscience in union with the Holy Spirit assures me of it too. What I want to say is this: my sorrow is so great, my mental anguish so endless, I would willingly be condemned and be cut off from Christ if it could help my brothers of Israel, my own flesh and blood. They were adopted as sons, they were given the glory and the covenants; the Law and the ritual were drawn up for them, and the promises were made to them. They are descended from the patriarchs and from their flesh and blood came Christ who is above all, God for ever blessed! Amen.

The Word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation: Luke 19:38

Alleluia, alleluia! I hope in the Lord, I trust in his word. **Alleluia!**

Gospel: Matthew 14:22-33

Command me to come to you over the water.

Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side while he would send the crowds away. After sending the crowds away he went up into the hills by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, while the boat, by now far out on the lake, was battling with a heavy sea, for there was a head-wind. In the fourth watch of the night he went towards them, walking on the lake, and when the disciples saw him walking on the lake they were terrified. 'It is a ghost' they said, and cried out in fear. But at once Jesus called out to them, saying, 'Courage! It is I! Do not be afraid.' It was Peter who answered. 'Lord,' he said 'if it is you, tell me to come to you across the water.' 'Come' said Jesus. Then Peter got out of the boat and started walking towards Jesus across the water, but as soon as he felt the force of the wind, he took fright and began to sink. 'Lord! Save me!' he cried. Jesus put out his hand at once and held him. 'Man of little faith,' he said 'why did you doubt?' And as they got into the boat the wind dropped. The men in the boat bowed down before him and said, 'Truly, you are the Son of God.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

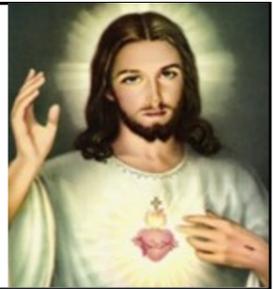
Jesus' gentle word of remonstrance, after he has rescued Peter, 'O you of little faith, why did you doubt?' addresses all members of the Church. Peter 'models' the mixture of boldness and fear, strength and weakness, characteristic of us all. We can make our own his cry for rescue ('Lord, save me') and feel as he felt the Lord's strong hand of rescue reaching out to raise us from the deep.



Sacred Heart Parish Preston

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19th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A 8th - 9th August 2020

Courage! It is I! Do not be Afraid!

There is no limit to the ways we may encounter the divine in human life. Our experience of God's power and presence is infinitely varied and can be perceived in different ways by different people. It can happen in a dramatically impressive event: it can happen in a moment of fear or quiet.

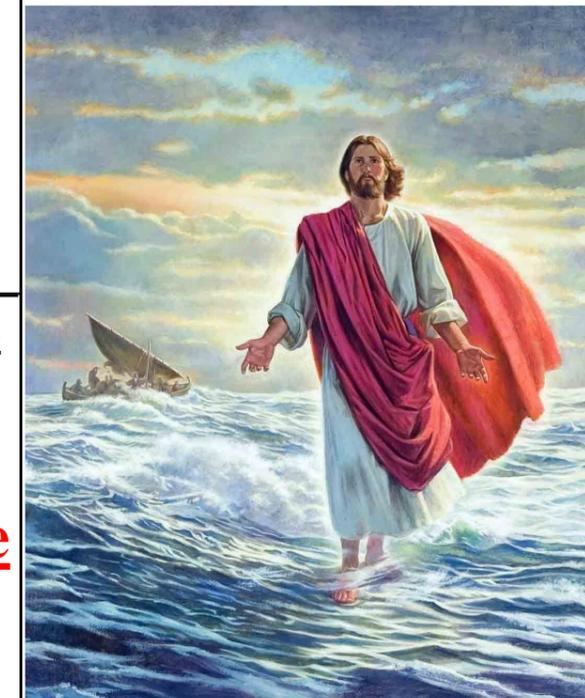
Often it can occur precisely when we have lost control of our lives, when our defences are down and we are aware of our human frailty. Our vulnerability allows God to reach in, touch and strengthen us for the challenges to come. Faith becomes courage to continue in adversity trusting in 'God with Us'.

This was the case for both Elijah and for Jesus' disciples. Elijah was on the run for fear of his life. Peter and the other disciples were terrified they would drown. Elijah encountered the presence of God through a tiny whispering sound breaking the silence of a cave. Peter and the others eventually recognised the divine presence in Jesus' power over the forces of nature as one walking over a stormy sea. In whatever way we sense the divine presence in our lives, we are invited to hear the reassuring words, 'Courage! It is I! Do not be afraid!'

There are many storms in life that can lead us to cry like Peter, "Lord, save me!" These may present themselves as: a breakdown in family relationships, experiencing racial discrimination or abuse, living with a debilitating illness or domestic violence, the loss of a sustainable income, homelessness, the hovering threat of a pandemic and its personal and social consequences.

Scripture tells us that our God can bring order out of chaos. God can divide overwhelming waters to create a path to freedom and safety. God seeks out the lost and the exiled, accompanies them and welcomes them home. God works through prophets, servant leaders and the courageous hearts and hands of faith-filled disciples whose hopes are not crushed by storms of institutional or leadership failures or the forces of violence nor persuasions of materialism, but whose hearts and faith are at one with the mind and heart of Christ Jesus. This calls for ongoing conversion of heart in each of us. But from the depths we will hear the 'voice that speaks of peace' urging us:

"Do not be afraid, for I have redeemed you: I have called you by your name, you are mine. Should you pass through the sea, I will be with you; or the rivers- they will not drown you. Should you walk through fire, you will not be scorched and the flames will not burn you. I AM your God, you are Mine!" (Isaiah 430)



Office Hours:
Tues to Fri: 10.00am - 12.30pm

Parish Priest:
Fr Jan Szweda, SVD
Assistant Priest:
Fr Aloysius Nato, SVD
Priest in Residence:
Fr Ennio Mantovani, SVD
Deacon:
Yousef Meda, SVD
Parish Office: Cristina Agius
School Principal: Mark Tierney
School Phone: 9487 1001
Sacrament Co-ordinator:
Ylenia Useli
shpcatechists@gmail.com
Child Safety Officers:
Kay Dufty: 0431 376 212 and
Robert Dullard: 0433 401 958
Child Safety Committee:
Robert Dullard (Chair)
Parish Council Members:
Catherine Zanatta (chairperson),
Kay Dufty (secretary), Tony Eley,
Gerard Grant, Ophelia Swai,
Anisasio (Pauline) Veamatahau,
Mark Tierney, Ben Fortuna and
Natalie Baran
Parish Finance Committee:
Peter Constable (Chair)
0425 779 831
St. Vincent de Paul Society:
Pauline O'Day (President)
Ph: 9484 2445

Parish Mass Schedule

**No Masses
until
further notice**

Please see
Online Mass
Schedule
on the next page



CatholicCare Sunday Appeal 2020
Sunday 9th August

You can break barriers

This weekend is the CatholicCare Sunday Appeal. Donations from our parish community will help CatholicCare to support the most vulnerable people in our community. Please donate to CatholicCare Sunday Appeal. Your support and generosity will help break barriers to social inclusion and strengthen families and communities to live life to the full. How can parishioners make a donation?

1. Online Donation - Make a donation through our website www.ccam.org.au/SundayAppeal (Those who wish to have their donation counted towards a parish total, may include their parish name and suburb in the comments section)
2. Phone - Call (03) 9287 5513 and speak to one of our fundraising team.
3. Bank transfer - Directly transfer funds to CatholicCare bank account (Bank account details noted below). If a tax deductible receipt is required, please contact CatholicCare to provide your details.

Bank Details are: CatholicCare Bank Account:
Account name: CatholicCare
BSB: 083 347
Account Number: 171 551 421
Bank: National Australia Bank

All gifts of \$2 and above are tax deductible

Sacred Heart Parish Prayer

Loving God, we honour the heart of Jesus, your beloved Son. We remember how he opened his heart in love to all people. Open our own heart to receive the gifts that continue to flow so richly from the heart of Christ, who lives with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. Amen.

Online Masses

St. Patrick's Cathedral - Live Streaming at:

<https://melbournecatholic.org.au/Mass>

Monday- Friday: 1pm, Saturday: 8am, Sunday: 11am

Recorded masses can also be viewed at:

www.wordonfire.org/daily-mass

Or: <http://bit.ly/MassOnDemand>

TV Masses

Channel 44 (31): Live telecast from St. Patrick's Cathedral, Sunday at 11am

Channel 10: Mass for you at home, Sunday at 6am.

RAI: Italian Mass from the Vatican, Sunday at 8:30am

Sacred Heart Bulletin

The Sacred Heart Bulletin is available online and if you would like to have a copy emailed to you, please send an email to sacredheart3072@gmail.com or call the office on 94803398 to be added to the email list.

COVID-19 Implications for the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne
Updated: Tuesday 4th August 5.00pm



All Victorians over the age of 12 must wear a face covering whenever they leave their home, unless a medical exemption applies.

As of 11.59pm Sunday 2nd August, 2020 and for a period of 6 weeks unless otherwise directed:

- All places of worship including churches, adoration chapels and other church buildings used for public prayer and religious services are to be closed.
- WEDDINGS: No weddings are permitted. If compassionate reasons permit a marriage ceremony to proceed, then only 5 people are allowed, comprising of the couple, the two witnesses and the celebrant.
- FUNERALS: will be limited to 10 mourners plus the minimum number required to conduct the funeral.
- BAPTISMS: are to be postponed.
- LIVESTREAMING: a limit of 5 in total may be present, including the celebrant.
- VISITATIONS: home visitations are not permitted unless for grave reasons.
- CURFEW: A Curfew is in place from 8pm until 5am each day. You may leave home for the purposes of essential work only.

Pope's Reflection of Coronavirus

Pope Francis wrote in late July that the coronavirus pandemic should prompt Christians to reflect on their faith. The pandemic poses fundamental questions about happiness in our lives and about the treasure of our Christian faith.

"This crisis represents an alarm that leads to a reflection on where we sink the deepest roots that support all of us in a storm," the pope wrote. "It reminds us that we have forgotten and neglected some of the important things in life and makes us reflect on what is truly important and necessary and what is less important or only apparently so."

While the initial period of lockdown was "a painful time of Eucharistic fasting" for many Catholics, it also showed them that Christ is present, as he promised, where two or three gather in his name.

"As the pandemic continues, he said, Christians should turn more resolutely to God, "our help and our aim," and should listen more carefully to the cry of the poor and of the earth.

Theological reflection on the pandemic and the experience of the past months, he wrote, should give rise to "new hope and new solidarity."

Natural Fertility Awareness Week from 17th to 23rd August – Are you wondering how you can find out more about your reproductive health during these times of isolation and social distancing? Billings LIFE has the answer!! For more information check the website: www.fertilitypinpoint.com and start to take control of your life.

Pray for Victims of Beirut Explosion

Pope Francis: "Let us pray for the victims, for their families; and let us pray for Lebanon so that, through the dedication of all its social, political and religious elements, it might face this extremely tragic and painful moment and, with the help of the international community, overcome the grave crisis they are experiencing,"

Lebanon is in mourning after a massive explosion ripped through its capital Beirut and surrounding areas on Tuesday evening, killing at least 100 people and injuring thousands, with many feared still trapped under rubble.

According to local authorities, the explosion was caused by tons of ammonium nitrate stored in a warehouse in the port of Lebanon's capital.

PRAYER FOR THE PEOPLE OF LEBANON

following the Beirut blast

God of Compassion,

You are strength to those who suffer and comfort to those who grieve.
We pray for the people of Lebanon in this time of disaster.
Embrace those who died so suddenly and console those who grieve for loved ones.

United in solidarity with our Lebanese sisters and brothers we pray:
For healing and strength for those injured and suffering
That the international community will respond with generosity and compassion
And that stability and peace will be restored in Lebanon.

We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

- Jo Brady RSJ Caritas Australia



Resources for the 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Please share these online resources with your families. The first resource contains the [Sunday readings](#). It is suggested that families gather to read the Scriptures aloud together. The [family resource](#) is designed for families with young children.

Ordination to the Diaconate

This Saturday, on the Feast of St Mary MacKillop, Archbishop Peter A Comensoli will ordain seminarian Alexander Chow as a deacon for the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne. **WATCH:** Alex's ordination Mass will be livestreamed from St Patrick's Cathedral this Saturday at 10am. All are welcome to join online: www.youtube.com/archmelb.

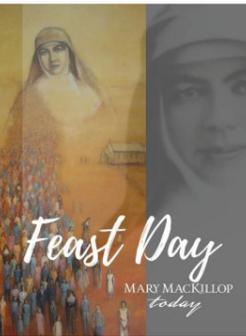
Collections

1st Collection: \$116.00

Direct Debit for July: \$820.00

2nd Collection: \$120.00

Thank you for your kind generosity!



Thank you for your prayers

'Mary MacKillop Today' supports thousands of people in Timor-Leste, Peru, Papua New Guinea, Fiji and here in Australia, bringing hope to communities for generations to come.

If you'd like to learn about Mary MacKillop Today, please

contact us via Ph: (02) 8912 2777

Email: hello@marymackilloptoday.org.au

or visit: www.marymackilloptoday.org.au

In the spirit of Mary MacKillop, we invite you to

"Take fresh courage."

For the ten year anniversary of Mary's canonisation, please give generously this Feast Day to continue her legacy.

TO DONATE

Call 02 8912 2777 or visit:

marymackilloptoday.org.au/donate

MARY MACKILLOP
today

Mass for Saint Mary MacKillop's Feast Day

in the Mary MacKillop Memorial Chapel will be live-streamed at 10am on 8th August followed by a time of Prayer at the Tomb. Here is the link:

<https://www.marymackillopplace.org.au/feast-day-mass-8-august-2020/>.

Enjoy weekly Catholic Radio Reflections:

Visit www.jcr.org.au or

<https://podcasts.apple.com/au/podcast/journey-catholic-radio/id970818039>

where you can listen anytime

